A STRANGE AND MIRACVLOVS ACCIDENT

happened in the Cittie of Purmerent, *on New-*yeeres euen last past

1599.

Of a yong child which was heard to cry in the Mothers wombe before it was borne, and about fourteene dayes of age, spake certaine sencible words, to the wonder of euery body.

Imprinted at London by *Iohn VVolfe*, and are to be solde at his shop in Popes head Alley, neere vnto the Exchange. 1599.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

Imprinted at London by Iohn Wolfe,

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change. 1599.

The Preface.

When our Lorde Christ was by his Disciples demaunded when the latter day, or the iudgement vpon the generation of men would be: he answered (sitting on the mount of Olives) saying: Take heede that no body seduce you, for there will come many in my name, and shall seduce many: you shall also heare warres, and the rumours of warres, but be not affraide, for it is not yet the end. One people shall rise vppe against an other, and one kingdome against an other. These be all beginnings of sorrow: Also there will happen signes and tokens in the Sunne, the Moone and the starres, monstrous birthes, and strange marueilous things, with great anguish and distresse which shall happen amongst men, as examples daily shew the same vnto vs, God threatning vs by the scourge of his wrath, which we see rounde about vs in these Netherlands to be kindled and hanging ouer our heads, which ought to bee a warning vnto vs to leaue our wicked liues, to turne and conuert our selues, and especially by the admonishment which his deuine Maiestie hath pleased to send vs, in this present miracle which is heere for to vnderstande, euen as it hath beene reported by credible persons, and affirmed for a

A strange and miraculous accident happened in the Cittie of Purmerent, on New-yeeres euen last 1599.

IT happened that a vertuous woman which feared God, a sister of the congregation, named Anna Iacobs, and hir husband named Iohn Martinson, who was also a brother of the reformed Church of Iesus Christ, both borne at Hoorn, and there married: And in Maye last, Anno 1598. came to dwell in the cittie of Purmerent, with some small wares, which was the trade wherewith (soberly and honestly) they vpheld their house.

This aforesaid woman being big with childe, and within eight dayes of her terme or computation, the childe was heard to crye or weepe in her wombe: insomuch that the father (her husband) asked what it was that cryed: and looking about,

about, thoughte that one of theire three children had beene there, they hauing in all foure children, which were all that instant playing in the church which was right ouer against their house, so that there was no bodie in the house but onely they two, which was the cause that (they both hearing the same againe perfectly) hee demaunded again what was that which cryed? Surelie (answered his wife) it is the fruite of my bodye: they both remaining hereat greatly amazed.

On the New yeres euen she was deliuered of a childe, not monstrous nor misshapen, but a well made childe and of a right humaine figure with all his limmes. Being a dead and aborsiue childe, it became sicke: and that so grieuously, that it seemed to bee the will of God to call it out of the worlde: this dooing vehemently trauell, at last it gaue such a shrewesse, that it laye as it were without life, insomuch that the Father (thinking it had been dead) said: Alas it is done. She being returned to it selfe againe, at eight about seauen of the clocke the xiiii. of January: and casting vp his eyes to heauen, and thrusting out his armes and fists (though anguish) spake these words three times.

O my God.

O my God.

O my God.

which

which words were spoken with such difficultie,
that between each time one might haue spoken
two or three words: also they seemed not to be the
words of a sick and feeble infant, but as if they had
been of a childe of ten yeares of age: and more
ouer so lowde, that they might haue been heard
to the Church.

Besides, the Father and the Mother which
heard this, there were two other women present,
the one a woman by which he sent small messes, and
the other was a Gentlewoman

Moreouer, the Father was sent for before the
Bishops full counsell of Parasceue, and was
therupon examined, and his speeche written
downe by the Secretarie. The like was done
in the Schools of the Church, by one Iohn Wil-
liam, [illegible] seruant and Scriuener to Mr
the said Doctor going softly about three of
the clocke in the afternoone, heard nothing but
sobbes, neither certaine words, but hardly
vnderstood, by reason of the faintnesse of the
sicke man, [illegible] which were vnderstood that
he prayed

Aye me

But how often it is not remembred.

The Mother of the [illegible] was so greeued,
that she could scarcely [illegible] be comforted:
But her husband being a wise man, and taking

courage (though likewise troubled) comforted her as well as he could, telling her, according to the viii. Psalme, That Gods might and power is disclosed by the mouthes of sucking Babes: By this may be seene, that the little Babes also haue the holy Ghost, although some (and especially the Anabaptists) say no, which now appeares to the contrarie.

FINIS.